

HOUSE BILL 3842

By Turner M

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63,
relative to overprescribing psychotropic
medications.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 6, Part 2, is amended by
adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

§ 63-6-239.

(a) Except for those psychotropic medications prescribed by psychiatrists, any patient receiving more than one (1) prescription of any psychotropic medication for more than six (6) weeks in duration from a non-psychiatrist prescriber must also undergo either a comprehensive psychological examination for diagnostic purposes or a course of short-term psychological treatment, such as six (6) appointments, in order to continue to receive the psychotropic medication from the non-psychiatrist prescriber. The provider providing either the psychological evaluation or the psychological treatment will coordinate care with the prescriber of the patient.

(b) This act shall not apply to any licensed psychiatrist, any patients of a licensed primary clinic or community mental health centers.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008, the public welfare requiring it.